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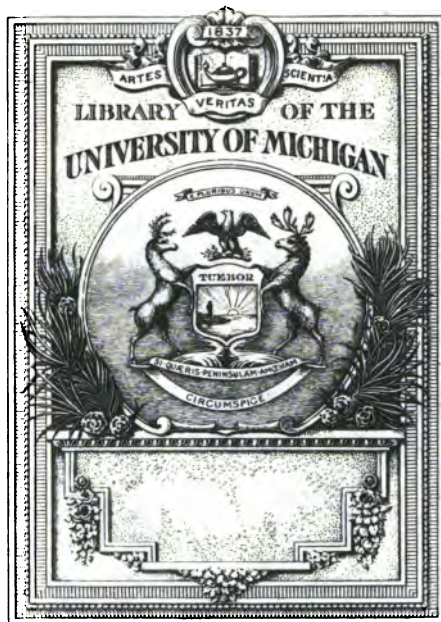
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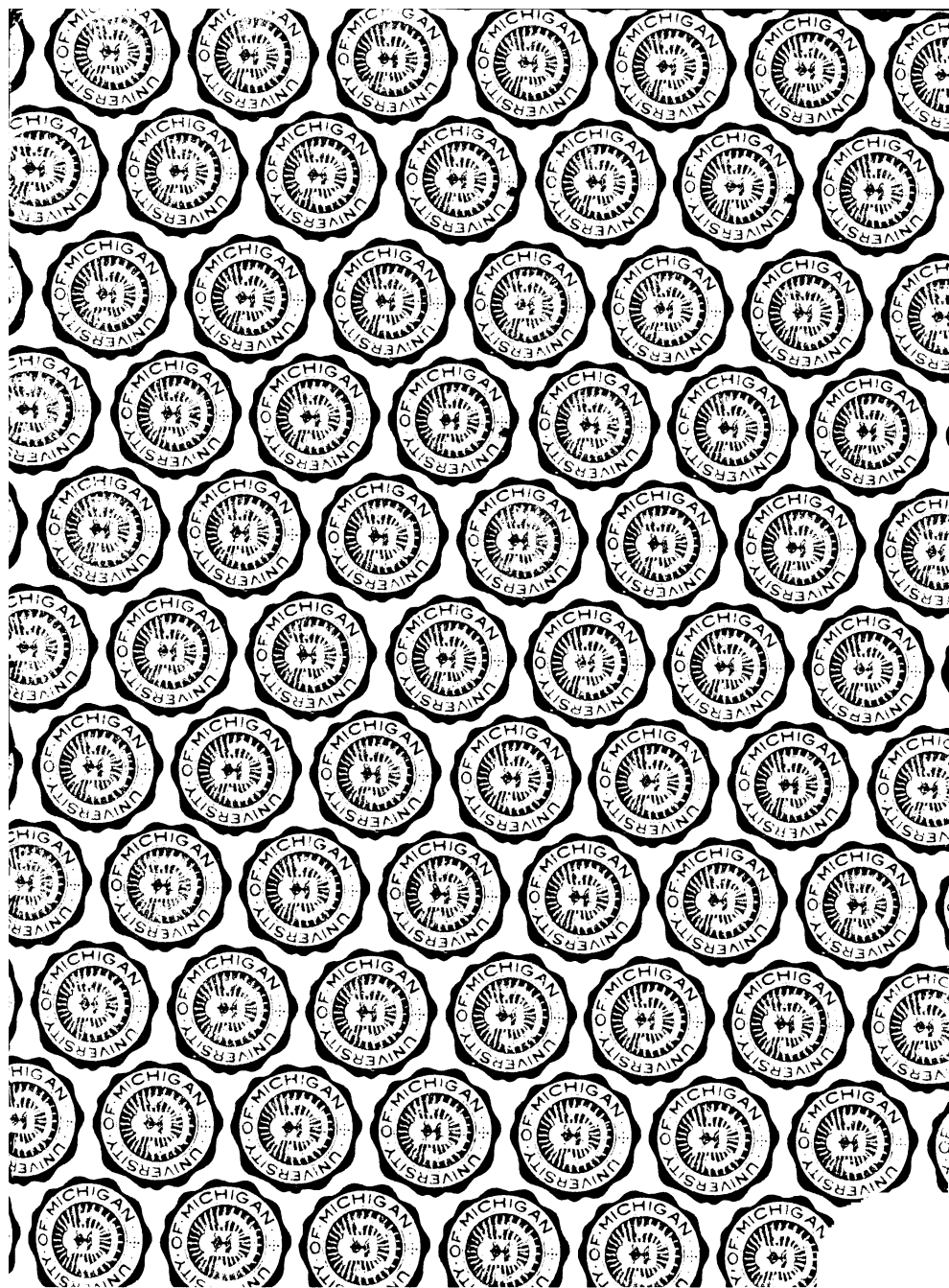
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**LETTER**

SENT BY  
**COL. COBBET**

FROM THE  
General Council of OFFICERS

TO  
GEN. *George Alchemire* **MONK.**

WITH HIS  
**ANSWER**  
To the said LETTER,

Dated at *Edinburgh* Octob. 27. 1659.

*Together with*  
A LETTER intended to have been  
sent from the Militia of *London*, to  
General *MONK*, and the Officers under  
his Command in *Scotland*.

---

*London*, Printed in the Year, 1659.

# A LETTER

SENT BY

COL. CORBET

FROM THE

General Council of Officers

TO

GEN. MONK.

WITH HIS

ANSWER

To the said Letter,

Dated at Edinburgh Octob. 27. 1650.

Written with

A LETTER intended to have been  
sent from the Militia of London, to  
General MONK, and his Officers under  
his Command in Scotland.

---

London, Printed in the Year, 1650.

**A LETTER from some Officers at Whitehall, to the Commander in Chief of the Forces in Scotland, to be communicated to the Officers of the Army there.**

GENTLEMEN,

VV

E hold it a duty incumbent upon us, in order to the preserving the Peace of this Commonwealth, as well as to give you satisfaction in an extraordinary passage of Providence that lately hath befallen us, which nothing but necessity and sense of duty could have prevailed with us to have undertaken.

Of late, the old spirit of Malignancy in all parts of the Nation appeared as well in the old professed Adversaries, as Neuters and pretended friends, who having sworn a confederacy and secrecie, and fitted and prepared themselves to have swallowed up the Interest of the good people of this Commonwealth, through the blessing of God were prevented in very many places; only in Cheshire they got an head, as we presume you have long since heard. Against which force, the Lord Lambert was sent with a Brigade, who (with the hazard of all that was dear to them) with cheerfulness undertook that service. And God having, according to his wonted kindness given an issue to that undertaking (even when the enemy concluded of success) The Officers there, weighing their duty in improving that signal mercy, and considering how craftily those that bore to the Adversary could still in former times, had by fair speeches, pretences and suggestions, increased us our hopes and expectations; and finding the disease more general than was to be supposed to be understood by the Parliament, did agree upon an humble Petition and Proposals to them: with a very sober and Christian Letter, sending the said Petition and Proposals in the said Letter to the Lord Fleetwood, with a desire, that if he thought it fit, it should be communicated to a General Council of Officers for their approbation: the Lord Fleetwood forthwith communicated the said Letter and Paper to Sir Arthur Hesling, who desired, that himself, Sir Arthur Pugh, and Major Sallenger, would give Mr. Lockhart a meeting, to consider what was fit to be done therein: who promised to answer the Lordships desire. But notwithstanding in stead thereof, the next day the said Sir Arthur acquainted the House, (for what reason we know not) of the said Paper, and that about was a dangerous design among those faithful Servants of the Commonwealth. Upon which motions were spread abroad of introducing a Gentleman by a single Person, which was directly contrary to the scope and design of the said Paper. Whereupon the House ordered an advertisement to be given to the Officers of the Army; and reproachful speeches were frequently made.

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quently cast up and down of sending the Lord *Lambert* to the *Tower*, and that some of the chief Officers in the said Brigade deserved to be hang'd, drawn and quartered. By all which, we clearly perceived, the design was either to divide between the Parliament and the Army, or between the Army and the good People of the Nation, or the Army within its self. Upon which the Officers here met, and agreed upon an humble Representation and Petition, which they delivered to the House, and had their Thanks, with a promise that their Proposals in the said Petition should be taken into consideration: At which General Council (to the end that nothing might be done by us, but what you might have full knowledge of) directions were given for sending the same, together with the reasons and grounds thereof sent unto you. One of which Letters being sent to Col. *O'Key's* Regiment, was brought into the House by a member thereof. The House thereupon declared the Lord *Fleetwood's* Commission void, together with the Commissions of the Lord *Lambert*, Major General *Disbrow*, and seven more Field Officers. And all this was done without so much as hearing them speak one word for themselves, or examining whether the names subscribed to the said Letter, were the handwriting of the said Officers, and all arising upon the same matter, for which, before they had given Thanks to the Army (an ill requital for their unwearied pains for the service of this Commonwealth) And some who seemed more eager to inflict punishment upon those Officers that subdued the common Enemy, then upon the common Enemy by them subdued, had so contrived it, that the Regiment commanded by Colonel *Murley* (who, with six others, were appointed to command the Army) was brought on for the Guard of the House, six or seven Barrels of Powder laid in, together with provisions, in order to the effectual prosecution of the said Design.

So soon as the Officers had the knowledge of these proceedings, and finding all once more laid at stake, resolved to trust the Lord with the Issue, and took Arms for the preservation of the good People, and Peace of these Nations, and have put a stop to the sitting of the Parliament for the present, concluding it a betraying of that Cause and Interest, more precious then our lives, and for which we have often jeopardied us all, to suffer this Army, that God hath made the Bulwark of the Peace of the Nation, to be divided and broken, to answer the ends and designs of evil-minded men. And therefore upon the whole, Our humble request to you is; That you would not hastily judge this Action; It being our desire and design to approve our hearts to God, that our end is the Glory of God, the Peace of these Nations, and the settlement thereof in the way of a Commonwealth, without a single Person, or House of Peers. And therefore whatever reports or suggestions the Enemy may raise to the contrary; We desire you would give no place or credit thereunto. But in your several places strive to preserve the Peace, and to suppress any turbulent or discontented Spirit, or contrivance of the Enemy, under what name or appearance soever it shall show it self: In order to which the Officers here, at a General Council, have with an unanimous consent acknowledged and owned the Lord *Fleetwood*, Commander in Chief of the Army.



Army, and declared their resolution to obey no other Orders, but what shall be given or communicated by his Lordship; and to look on those that are contrary minded, as disturbers of the Peace of the Army; and further have under consideration what may be necessary and fit, in Order to the speedy and effectual settlement of the Armies and this Common-wealth. And for your more full and clear Information in these things, We have sent you Copies of our said Representation, and Petition, and Letters, upon which the House passed the said Votes. We shall add no more, but commend you to the Lord, and desire your Prayers that God would now appear in giving wisdom and understanding, that we may know what to do, and find his presence with us in our undertakings, that the end of this may be his Glory, the comfort of those that fear the Lord, and the Peace and good settlement of this Common-wealth. For a more particular account of affairs here at present; We refer you to the bearer hereof, Col. Cobler, to whom we desire you will give credit: We remain,

*Your affectionate Friends  
and Servants.*

*John Dillwyn.*

*Charles Fleetwood.*

*Ja. Berry.*

*The. Kelsey.*

*Jo. Massey.*

*Ja. Duckenfield.*

*Ed. Salmon.*

*Jer. Camfield.*

**These for the Right Honourable General Monk, to be by him Communicated to the rest of the Officers of the Army in Scotland.**

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An ANSWER of the Commander in Chief  
and Officers of the Forces in Scotland;  
To a Letter from some Officers at  
White-hall.

GENTLEMEN.

W V We show great Gratitude we put Pen to Paper against you,  
our sad hearts, which are still firmly united to you in the  
same bond of love as ever, can bear us witness; yet, that  
we may not be wanting in our duty to God, our Country and Posterities in  
a day of great trial, as it come upon us; we are constrained to bear our  
Testimony against your late violent proceedings upon the Parliament of Eng-  
land; for which proceedings we confess our selves altogether ignorant of  
a warra ntable ground ( notwithstanding the account you have given us )  
either from Scripture, Reason, or Necessity: For, suppose the account  
you have given us of that Action to be impartial ( which yet we think we  
have some ground to suspect ) we would gladly have found there  
could be of sending about your late *Petition* and *Representation*, to create  
Greatness and Power to us ( nothing of dangerous consequence ) after  
you had received the Parliaments Answer thereunto.

If you avow the *House* of the House? We answer, Those had no rela-  
tion to the matter of the *Petition*; for that they gave their fence of that  
before, viz. That was dangerous, Chargeable, and Useless to make more  
General Officers than they had made: Their Thanks were only for your  
good expreffions in the *Petition*, whereof they could not but have these  
especially in their consideration, viz. your acknowledging them the Su-  
pream Authority of these Nations, and your telling them that you and  
obedient Servants: Now by appointing a Committee to recommend that  
*Petition* to all Regiments for Subscriptions, after so great a progress made  
in it by a few, and the Parliaments Negative sence declared of it, What  
could there be in design, but a stirring up the Army against the Parlia-  
ment? This we cannot but take notice of, as a considerable circumstance  
in the management of that affair. To the matter it self of the *Petition*, we  
mean onely, that of appointing General Officers, we think we have just  
cause to declare our dislike: And we cannot but wonder, how such as  
have so lately escaped out of the Tyranny of an absolute Monarch, where-  
unto by their own too credulous inclinations they unhappily fell, should  
again carry so many materials for the building up of that they have so  
lately destroyed: The best of men, we know, are subject to many fail-  
ings; and how this Army and these poor Nations have already been chea-  
red with specious pretences, the sad Revolutions these five years last past  
do sufficiently evidence. No doubt many pious men were made to believe,  
after the former Interruption of this Parliament, That the Yoke should

be